

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

Colmers Farm Primary School would like to welcome you to Reception (Year R)! Year R is made up of 60 children divided into 2 classes of 30. Here in Reception our aim is to provide children with a range of meaningful experiences in a secure and stimulating environment. The Early Years is a little different to that of Key Stage 1 and 2. Our learning is based around the revised Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum encouraging children's independent learning. All children begin Reception with different starting points and develop at different rates. By considering your child's needs, interests and stages of development, we aim to offer challenging and enjoyable experiences across the EYFS curriculum through topics (please see our topic planner).

Our learning is based around the revised Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum encouraging children's independent learning. The revised Early Years Foundation Stage is based on three prime and four specific areas of learning:

Prime Areas	Specific Areas
Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED) Communication and Language (C&L) Physical Development (PD)	Literacy Mathematics Understanding the World Expressive Art & Design

Reception children follow a programme designed to help them achieve what are known as the 'Early Learning Goals' (ELG's). These are targets that most children are expected to achieve by the time they leave Reception.

Below is a brief summary of what we do in each area:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We teach children how to work, play and co-operate with others following the rules, routines and daily life of Colmers Farm Primary School. It enables children to feel safe and secure, become independent learners, make new friends and function in a group beyond their family. Children are helped/ encouraged to become more self-confident, express their feelings in appropriate ways and show respect for people who may have different cultures or beliefs to themselves.

Communication and Language

This area focuses on developing children's confidence and ability in speaking and listening. Both in small and large groups children are encouraged to listen attentively and talk about their own experiences. We encourage children to retell well known stories and traditional tales as well as inventing their own stories through role-play activities. We encourage speaking and listening continuously, regularly using talking partners etc. in our sessions.

Physical Development

This area focuses on encouraging children to be physically active in both indoor and outdoor environments. Individual's mobility, awareness of space, and manipulative skills are monitored and all children are encouraged to move confidently and imaginatively with increasing control and co-ordination. Children are supported in developing fine motor skills such as cutting, threading, pegging, rolling and drawing. Children are made aware of the importance of physical activity, the changes that happen to their body when they are active and how to make healthy choices in relation to food.

Literacy

The ELG is for children :

Reading: Children read and understand simple sentences. They use phonic knowledge to decode regular words and read them aloud accurately. They also read some common irregular words. They demonstrate understanding when talking with others about what they have read.

Writing: Children use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their spoken sounds. They also write some irregular common words. They write simple sentences which can be read by themselves and others. Some words are spelt correctly and others are phonetically plausible.

Children are provided with plenty of opportunities for reading, writing and are introduced to different forms of writing such as lists, labels, stories and letters. We now have a dedicated Literacy area, with whiteboard tables, writing belts, exciting role play areas to promote independent writing.

Mathematics

The ELG is for children :

Number: Children count reliably with numbers from one to 20, place them in order and say which number is one more or one less than a given number. Using quantities and objects, they add and subtract two single-digit numbers and count on or back to find the answer. They solve problems, including doubling, halving and sharing.

Shape, Space and Measure: Children use everyday language to talk about size, weight, capacity, position, distance, time and money to compare quantities and objects and to solve problems. They recognise, create and describe patterns. They explore characteristics of everyday objects and shapes and use mathematical language to describe them.

We try and make this as practical as possible. We do lots of practical activities to help them compare, sort, match, sequence and count. We now have a dedicated Mathematics focus room to support and promote these. In all areas of Mathematics the children are introduced to appropriate mathematical language related to the topic.

Understanding the World

This area focuses on children developing knowledge and understanding of their environment, which includes finding out about their families, local, national and global communities and features of the natural and man-made world. Children are encouraged to recognise features of living things, objects and events and to look closely at similarities, differences, patterns and change. They are given opportunities to talk about their observations, sometimes recording them and be encouraged to ask questions to gain information. Children will have access to computers, digital cameras, CD players, SMART boards, programmable devices such as Bee-bots and other battery operated toys.

Expressive Art and Design

This area focuses on the development of children's imagination and their ability to express ideas and feelings in creative ways. Through art, music, dance, stories and role-play, children will develop an increasing ability to use their imagination, listen and observe. Children are encouraged to explore sound, colour, texture, shape, form and space in two and three dimensions. Opportunities will be provided for children to experiment with clay, play dough, paint, chalk, oil pastels, foam and glue.

Our Provision:

Our learning environment is based around these 7 areas of learning:

'The blue room': focussing on Communication & Language , Literacy and Understanding the World.

'The red room': focussing on Mathematics (number/ shape, space and measure) and Expressive Art and Design.

'Outside Area': focussing on all areas particularly Physical Development

***PSED is encouraged throughout all areas of the Unit**